

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL MEMORANDUM**

**HB 1758 – SB 1873**

April 23, 2018

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Empowers the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Board to certify emergency medical technician (EMT) and advanced emergency medical technician (AEMT) training centers operated by ambulance services to provide training for career EMTs and AEMTs. Declares a training program offered by an EMT/AEMT training center, in order to be certified by the EMS Board, must follow United States Department of Transportation EMT/AEMT national standard curriculum.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:**

Increase State Expenditures - \$4,600/One-Time  
\$71,500/Recurring

Increase Local Revenue – Exceeds \$100,000/Recurring/Permissive

Increase Local Expenditures – Exceeds \$100,000/Recurring/Permissive

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS (013476, 014323, 017651):** Amendment 013476 deletes and replaces all language after the enacting clause such that the only substantive changes are: (1) clarifies that training programs that are offered by an EMT/AEMT training center must follow the National EMS Scope of Practice Model for Emergency Medical Service Personnel as promulgated by the U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; and (2) requires the ambulance service's instructor coordinator be approved by the Division of Emergency Medical Services.

Amendment 014323 adds language requiring the ambulance service to charge a special enrollment fee of \$175 to each student to be paid directly to the Division of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to offset administrative costs.

Amendment 017651 specifies that any training centers authorized by this legislation are a limited pilot project for the purposes of assessing the impact of EMT/AEMT training centers on the provision of emergency medical services in the state. Under the limited pilot project, an EMT/AEMT training center may only be operated in Sullivan, Washington, Carter, Hawkins, or Johnson Counties.

## **FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:**

**Increase State Revenue – Exceeds \$35,000/Recurring/  
Division of Emergency Medical Services**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$4,600/One-Time/General Fund  
\$71,500/Recurring/General Fund**

**Increase Local Revenue – Exceeds \$100,000/Recurring/Permissive**

**Increase Local Expenditures – Exceeds \$100,000/Recurring/Permissive**

**Other Fiscal Impact – Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-29-121, all health related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. The EMS Board had a deficit of \$75,077 in FY15-16 and a deficit of \$113,546 in FY16-17.**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- EMS education was moved to the Board of Regents in the 1980s to formalize EMS education and to become more aligned with other healthcare professional education.
- There are currently 19 EMS educational institutions across the state that offers EMT and AEMT education. The passage of the proposed legislation would result in an increase in ambulance services requesting approval to teach these programs in their services.
- Based on information provided by the Department of Health (DOH), the proposed legislation cannot be accommodated within existing resources. The DOH will require one Emergency Medical Services Consultant 1 position to ensure programs are following rules for educational programs.
- The one-time increase in state expenditures for the additional position is estimated to be \$4,600 (\$1,900 computer cost + \$2,700 office furniture).
- The recurring increase in state expenditures associated with the additional position is estimated to be \$71,470 (\$47,616 salaries + \$15,154 benefits + \$7,900 administrative cost + \$200 connection cost + \$600 supplies).
- The equipment to establish the program is estimated to exceed \$20,000.
- The proposed legislation will only allow Sullivan, Washington, Carter, Hawkins, and Johnson Counties to operate training centers. Assuming these five counties will decide to establish a program, the increase in local expenditures is estimated to be exceed \$100,000 (5 services x \$20,000).
- It is assumed the ambulance services will charge a certification fee to collect fee revenue in an amount to cover all the ambulance service costs; thus a recurring increase in local revenue exceeding \$100,000.
- Pursuant to requirements of amendment 014323, ambulance services will charge a special enrollment fee of \$175 to each student to be paid directly to the Division of EMS to offset administrative costs. It is assumed that such fee will be in addition to fees charged by ambulance services to cover the costs incurred by such services.

- Assuming each ambulance service will have on average no more than 10 students per class and four classes per year (2 EMT and 2 AEMT), the recurring increase in state revenue to the Division of EMS is estimated to exceed \$35,000 [(5 services x 10 students each x \$175 fee) x 4 classes].
- Based on information provided by the Tennessee Board of Regents, the proposed legislation will not have a significant impact on enrollment or change any training programs; therefore, any fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.
- The EMS Board is required to collect fees in an amount sufficient to pay the costs of operating the Board. All fees collected by the Board are deposited by the DOH with the State Treasurer to the credit of the General Fund and shall be expended by the Department and included in the appropriation made for the Board in the General Appropriations Act.
- The EMS Board had a deficit of \$75,077 in FY15-16 and a deficit of \$113,546 in FY16-17.

### **CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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